

I. Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace the paragraph which begins on page 7, line 7 with the following paragraph:

In one especially preferred embodiment of this invention, the reinforcing phase is comprised of a poly(ethylene-co-vinyl acetate) polymer (EVA). However, the reinforcing phase could conceivably be any polyolefin copolymer or terpolymer (linear, graft, or block) as long as it meets the criteria described above. Such polymers can include copolymers prepared with monomers of ethylene, butylene, propylene or butadiene, etc; copolymerized with other monomers such as vinyl acetate, methyl acrylate, methyl methacrylate, butyl acrylate, styrene (like IndexTM polymers from Dow, and KratonTM polymers from Shell), maleic anhydride, maleic acid, acrylic acid, methacrylic acid, vinyl methyl ether, glycidyl ethers, trimethylolpropanemonoallylether, vinyl chloride, etc. The reinforcing phase could also be comprised of higher polarity polymers such as polyvinyl alcohol, polyvinyl alcohol copolymers, and its copolymers (polyvinylbutyral, polyvinylformal, ethylene vinyl alcohol[[]]), polyamides (nylons), and polyvinylpyrrolidone copolymers. It can be appreciated that acid, alcohol, or ~~anyhydride~~ anhydride functional polymers can enhance adhesion to multiple substrates, and can also provide the capacity to chemically react with a reactive liquid phase and/or adsorbent phase if so desired.